

APPEALS COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, 7TH JUNE, 2016

PRESENT: Councillor J.K. Howell [Chair]

Councillors:

S.M. Allen, W.G. Hopkins, J.P. Jenkins, S.E. Thomas and J. Williams

The following officers were in attendance:

Ms K. Morgan – Principal H.R. Officer

Mr C. Jones – Assistant Solicitor

Mrs M. Evans Thomas – Principal Democratic Services Officer

Committee Room 1, 3 Spilman Street, Carmarthen : 9.45 a.m. – 1.20 p.m. and 1.45 p.m - 2.30 p.m.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor B.A.L. Roberts.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal interest.

3. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED that pursuant to Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item as the report involved the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 13 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act (As amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2007) namely information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

4. TO CONSIDER AN APPEAL AGAINST DISMISSAL - ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Following the application of the public interest test it was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** pursuant to the Act referred to in Minute No. 3 above to consider this matter in private, with the public excluded from the meeting, as it would involve the disclosure of exempt information likely to reveal the identity of an individual.

The public interest test in this matter related to the appellant's name and other personal details, being personal data as defined in Section 1 of the Data Protection Act 1998. The issue to be considered by the Committee was not a matter of public interest. Disclosure of the information in the report would be unfair and run contrary to the appellant's right to privacy. On balance therefore, the public interest in disclosure was outweighed by the public interest in maintaining confidentiality of the report.

The Chair welcomed to the meeting the appellant and his union representative, the appointed Investigating Officer and HR representative and outlined the protocol which would be followed in hearing the appeal (copies of which were circulated at the meeting).

The Committee thereupon proceeded to receive evidence from the Investigating Officer and the appellant.

Both parties were afforded the opportunity of cross-examining the evidence provided and to sum-up, following which they withdrew from the meeting whilst the Committee considered the evidence and representations made.

The Committee, having considered all the evidence presented, together with the representations made by, and on behalf of, the appellant and the Investigating Officer

RESOLVED

5.1 that the appeal be dismissed, and the decision to dismiss the appellant, confirmed in a letter dated the 22nd April, 2016 following a formal Disciplinary Hearing held on the 19th and 20th April, 2016, be upheld;

5.2 that the appellant be advised in writing of the full reasons for the dismissal of the appeal.

Both parties were recalled to the meeting and advised of the Panel's decision.

CHAIR

DATE